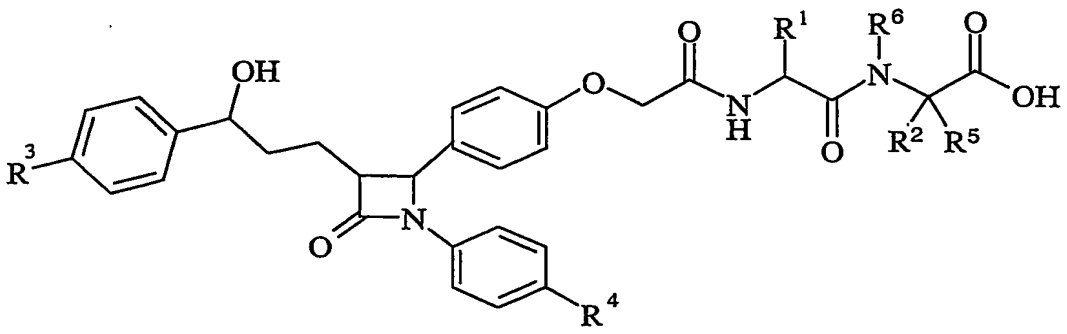
Claim

1. A compound of formula (XV):



(XV)

wherein:

$\mathbf{R^1}$ is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, *N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_1-C_6 alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

$\mathbf{R^2}$ and $\mathbf{R^5}$ are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, aryl C_{1-6}alkoxy,(C_1-C_4)$_3$Si, *N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-6}alkylS(O)$_a$, , C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, aryl or aryl C_{1-6} alkylS(O)$_a$, wherein a is 0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

$\mathbf{R^3}$ is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C_{1-6}alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkylS-;

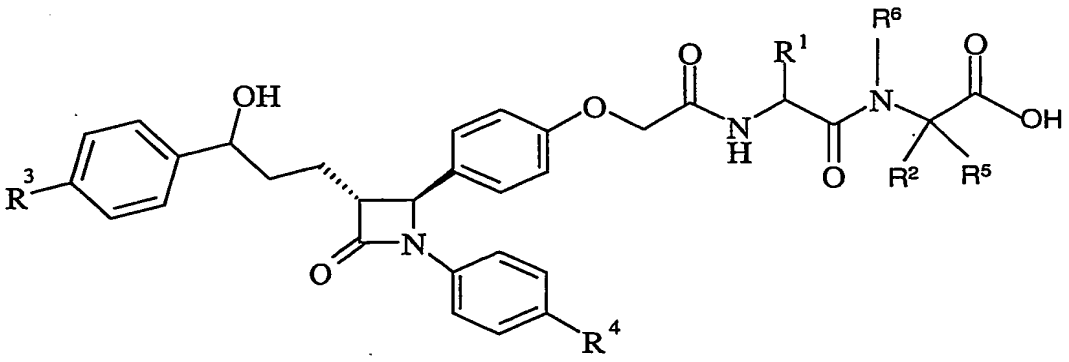
$\mathbf{R^4}$ is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

$\mathbf{R^6}$ is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, or arylC_{1-6} alkyl;

wherein $\mathbf{R^5}$ and $\mathbf{R^2}$ may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein $\mathbf{R^6}$ and $\mathbf{R^2}$ may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof.

2. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

$\mathbf{R^1}$ is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, *N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_1-C_6 alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

$\mathbf{R^2}$ and $\mathbf{R^5}$ are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, cyano, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, aryl C_{1-6}alkoxy,(C_1-C_4)$_3$Si, *N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-6}alkylS(O)$_a$, , C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, aryl or aryl C_{1-6} alkylS(O)$_a$, wherein a is 0-2; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

$\mathbf{R^3}$ is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C_{1-6}alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkylS-;

$\mathbf{R^4}$ is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

$\mathbf{R^6}$ is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, or arylC_{1-6} alkyl;

wherein $\mathbf{R^5}$ and $\mathbf{R^2}$ may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein $\mathbf{R^6}$ and $\mathbf{R^2}$ may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof.

3. A compound according to claim 1, wherein:

$\mathbf{R^1}$ is hydrogen, phenyl or a branched or unbranched C_{1-6}alkyl.

4. A compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:

R^2 is hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, acylamino, C_{1-6}alkoxy l, halo or methoxy C_{1-6}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy or cyano.

5. A compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:
R^3 is hydrogen, halo, methyl or ethyl; wherein said methyl or ethyl may be optionally substituted by one or more C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo or methoxy.

6. A compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:
R^3 is hydrogen, methyl, chlorine, fluorine, C_{1-6} alkylS-, or methoxy.

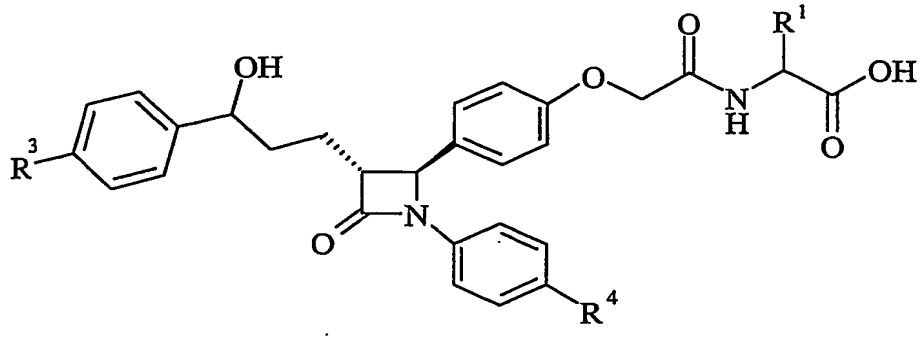
7. A compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:
R^4 is hydrogen or halo.

8. A compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:
R^4 is chlorine or fluorine.

9. A compound according to any of the preceding claims, wherein:
R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl or R^6 and R^2 form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms.

10. A compound according to claim 1, wherein:
R^1 is hydrogen;
R^2 is a branched or unbranched C_{1-4}alkyl, optionally substituted by a C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, alkylS-, aryl optionally substituted by hydroxy or cyano, amino, N-(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, N,N-(C_{1-6}alkyl)$_2$amino or aryl C_{1-6} alkylS(O)$_a$, wherein a is 0-2
R^3 and R^4 are halo;
R^5 and R^6 are hydrogen.

11. A compound of the formula **(VI)**:



R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, *N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_1-C_6 alkylcarbonylamino C_{1-6}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

R^2 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, a branched or unbranched C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy, amino, guanidino, carbamoyl, carboxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, aryl C_{1-6}alkoxy,(C_1-C_4)$_3$Si, *N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-6}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-6}alkylS(O)$_{a,\ aryl}$ C_{1-6} alkylS(O)$_a$, wherein a is 0-2, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or aryl; and wherein any aryl group may be optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, alkyl, halo, C_{1-6}alkoxy or C_{1-6} alkylS-;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo or C_{1-6}alkoxy;

R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, or arylC_{1-6} alkyl;

R^7 is an hydroxy group or a C_{1-3} alkoxy group;

wherein R^5 and R^2 may form a ring with 2-7 carbon atoms and wherein R^6 and R^2 may form a ring with 3-6 carbon atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof.

12. A method of treating or preventing hyperlipidemic conditions comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 11 to a mammal in need thereof.

13. A method of treating or preventing atherosclerosis comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 11 to a mammal in need thereof.

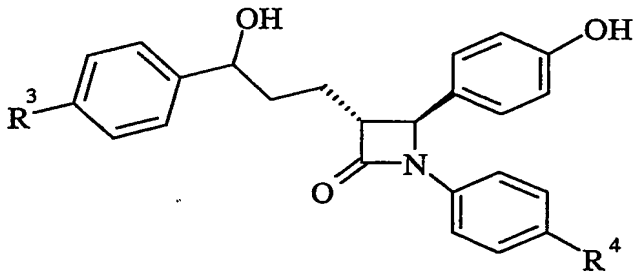
14. A method for treating or preventing Alzheimers' disease comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 11 to a mammal in need thereof.

15. A method for treating or preventing cholesterol associated tumors comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 11 to a mammal in need thereof.

16. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 11 in admixture with pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, diluents and/or carriers.

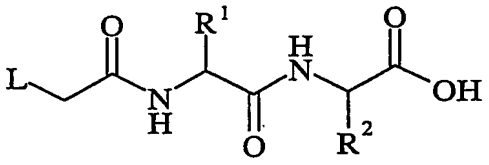
17. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof which process (wherein variable groups are, unless otherwise specified, as defined in formula (I)) comprises of:

Process 1) reacting a compound of formula (II):



(II)

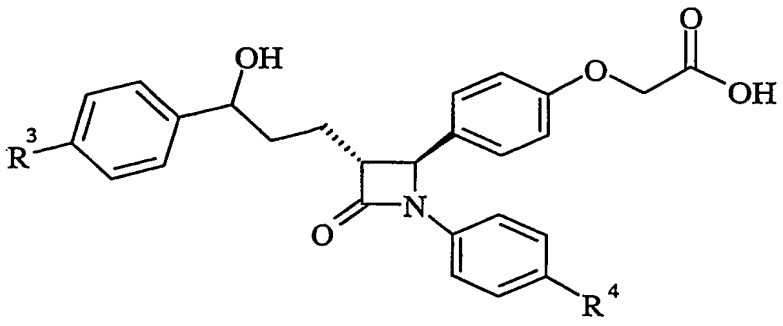
with a compound of formula (III):



(III)

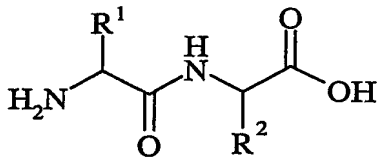
wherein L is a displaceable group;

Process 2) reacting an acid of formula (IV):



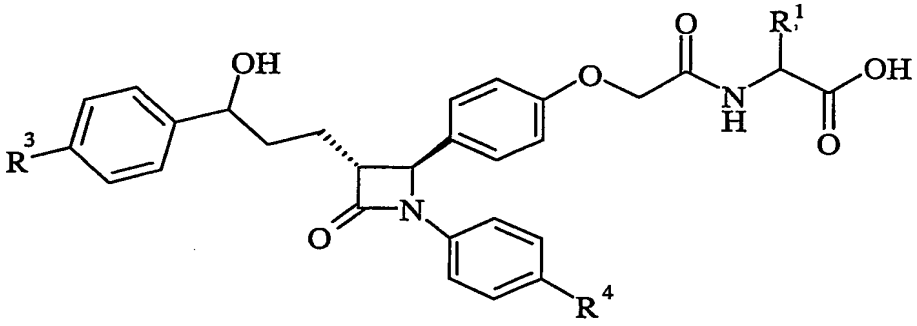
(IV)

or an activated derivative thereof; with an amine of formula (V):



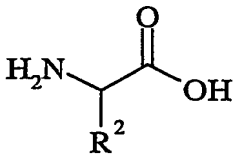
(V)

Process 3): reacting an acid of formula (VI):



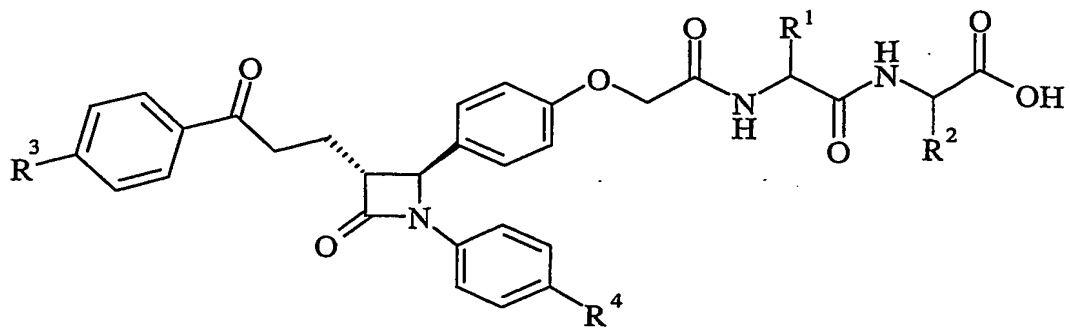
(VI)

or an activated derivative thereof, with an amine of formula (VII):



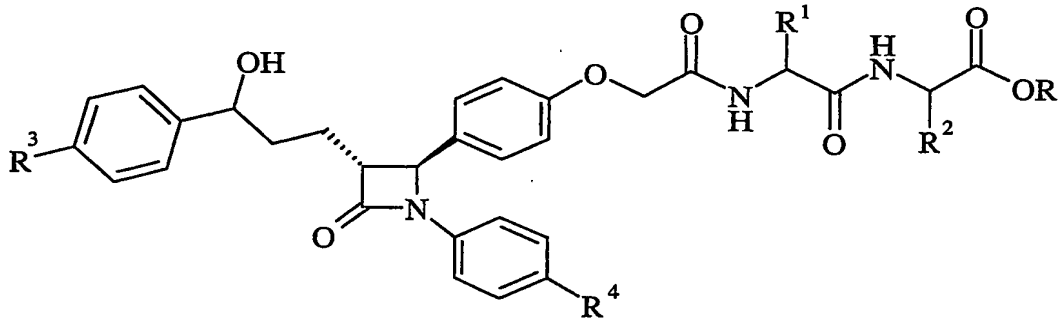
(VII)

Process 4): reducing a compound of formula (VIII):



(VIII)

Process 5): De-esterifying a compound of formula **(IX)**



(IX)

wherein the group C(O)OR is an ester group;

and thereafter if necessary or desirable:

i) converting a compound of the formula **(I)** into another compound of the formula **(I)**;

ii) removing any protecting groups;

iii) forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug; or

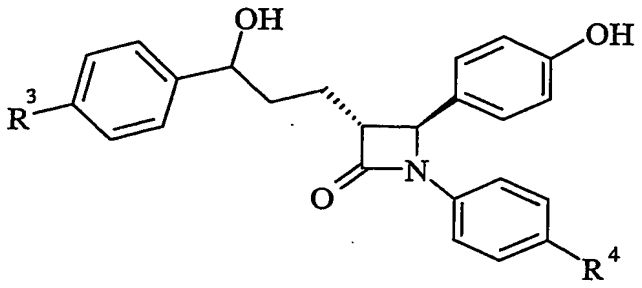
iv) separating two or more enantiomers.

L is a displaceable group, suitable values for L are for example, a halogeno or sulphonyloxy group, for example a chloro, bromo, methanesulphonyloxy or toluene-4-sulphonyloxy group.

C(O)OR is an ester group, suitable values for C(O)OR are methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *t*-butoxycarbonyl and benzyloxycarbonyl.

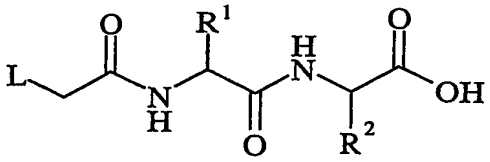
18. A process for preparing a compound of formula **(I)** or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug thereof which process (wherein variable groups are, unless otherwise specified, as defined in formula **(I)**) comprises of:

Process 1) reacting a compound of formula **(II)**:



(II)

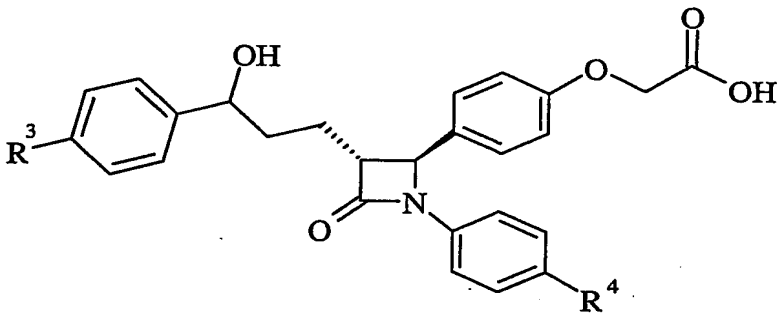
with a compound of formula **(III)**:



(III)

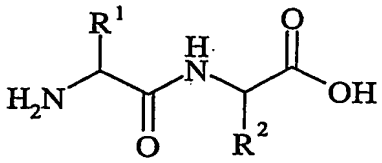
wherein L is a displaceable group;

Process 2) reacting an acid of formula **(IV)**:



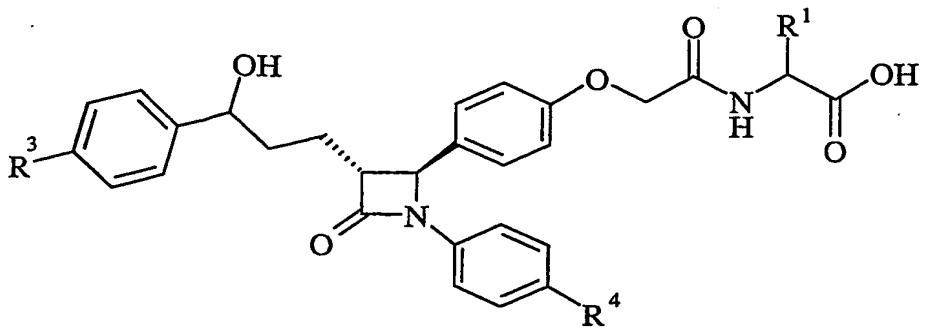
(IV)

or an activated derivative thereof; with an amine of formula **(V)**:



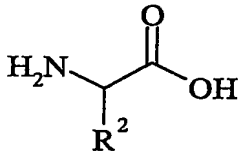
(V)

Process 3): reacting an acid of formula **(VI)**:



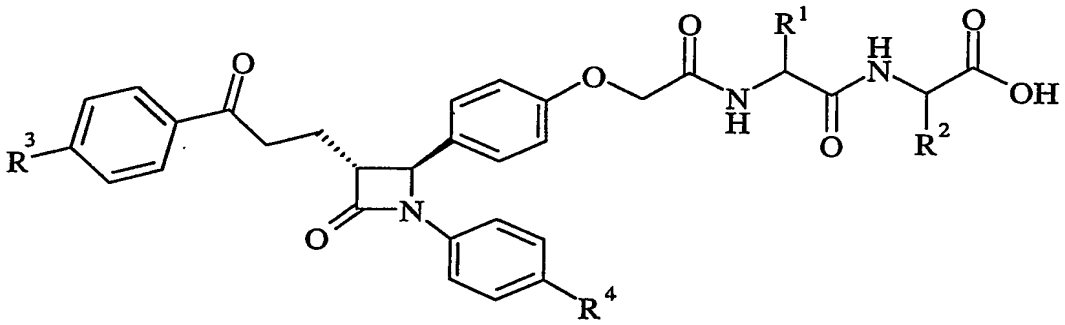
(VI)

or an activated derivative thereof, with an amine of formula (VII):



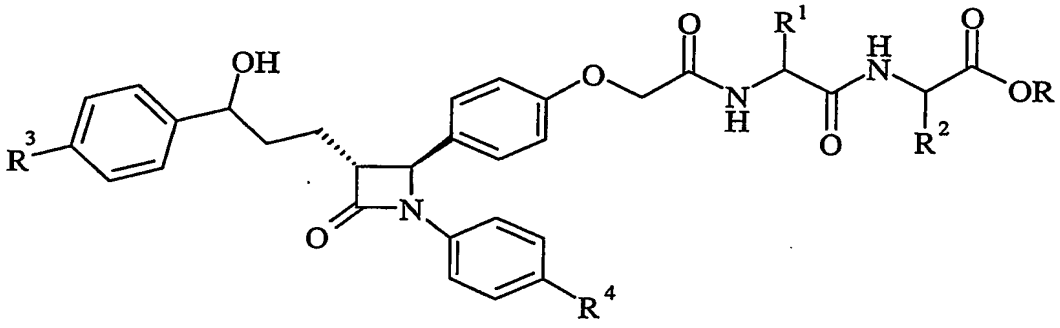
(VII)

Process 4): reducing a compound of formula (VIII):



(VIII)

Process 5): De-esterifying a compound of formula (IX)



(IX)

wherein the group C(O)OR is an ester group;

and thereafter if necessary or desirable:

i) converting a compound of the formula (I) into another compound of the formula (I);
ii) removing any protecting groups;
iii) forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, solvate of such a salt or a prodrug; or
iv) separating two or more enantiomers.

L is a displaceable group, suitable values for L are for example, a halogeno or sulphonyloxy group, for example a chloro, bromo, methanesulphonyloxy or toluene-4-sulphonyloxy group.

C(O)OR is an ester group, suitable values for C(O)OR are methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *t*-butoxycarbonyl and benzyloxycarbonyl.

19. A combination of a compound according to formula (I) or (XV) with a PPAR alpha and/or gamma agonist.

20. A combination of a compound according to formula (I) or (XV) with an HMG Co-A reductase inhibitor.